DAVID W. SHAPIRO (NYSB 2054054) 1 United States Attorney 2 3 5 6 7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 8 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 9 SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION 10 $R_{\text{No.}}$ 0 2 \sim 11 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, 12 Plaintiff, 13 VIOLATION: Insider Trading 14 U.S.C. § 78j(b), 15 U.S.C. § 78ff(a), 17 CFR 240.10b-5 V. 15 16 SAN FRANCISCO VENUE TIMOTHY J. GANLEY, 17 Defendant. 18 19 INDICTMENT 20 The Grand Jury charges: 21 I. BACKGROUND 22 At all times relevant to this Indictment: 23 Critical Path, Inc. ("Critical Path" or the "Company") was a high-tech 1. 24 software and services company, incorporated in California and headquartered in San 25 Francisco, California. Critical Path was founded in 1997 with a business plan that called 26 for it to "handle the world's email" on an outsourced basis. Critical Path went public in 27 1999, and its common stock was publicly traded under the symbol "CPTH" on the 28

INDICTMENT

nationwide automated quotation system ("NASDAQ") operated by the National Association of Securities Dealers.

 The defendant TIMOTHY J. GANLEY was Vice President of Strategic Sales at Critical Path.

II. RELEVANT LEGAL AND ECONOMIC PRINCIPLES

- 3. The federal securities laws are intended to ensure honest markets and to promote investor confidence. Investors have a legitimate expectation that the prices of actively traded securities reflect publicly available information about the companies that issue those securities.
- 4. Insider trading undermines investor confidence in the integrity of the securities markets. Insider trading occurs when corporate insiders, such as directors, officers, or employees, trade company securities on the basis of material nonpublic information.
 - Securities Exchange Act Rule 10b-5 prohibits insider trading.

III. CRITICAL PATH'S INSIDER-TRADING POLICY

- 6. As a publicly-traded company, Critical Path adopted an insider-trading policy that prohibited trading in company securities by corporate insiders while in possession of material nonpublic information.
- 7. Critical Path's insider-trading policy defined material information as any information that a reasonable investor would consider important in a decision to buy, hold or sell stock, and any information that could reasonably affect the price of the stock.
- 8. In addition to the general prohibition against trading while in possession of material nonpublic information, Critical Path's insider-trading policy included further trading restrictions directed specifically toward particularly high-level insiders. The policy required high-level insiders to obtain approval before executing any Critical Path stock trades. The policy also required high-level insiders to restrict their trading to a defined period of time known as a trading window.

- 9. When the trading window was open, high-level insiders could trade Critical Path stock if they were not in possession of material nonpublic information and if they obtained preapproval for their trade. When the trading window was closed, high-level insiders were flatly prohibited from trading Critical Path stock.
- 10. As Vice President of Strategic Sales at Critical Path, the defendant was subject to Critical Path's insider-trading policy, and he was a high-level insider subject to the trading window and the requirement of trading preapproval.
- 11. On January 11, 2001, the defendant's trading window at Critical Path was closed, meaning that the defendant was prohibited by Critical Path's insider-trading policy from buying or selling Critical Path stock.

IV. THE DEFENDANT'S POSSESSION AND USE OF MATERIAL NONPUBLIC INFORMATION

- 12. On or about October 19, 2000, Critical Path publicly announced its third-quarter financial results and made predictions about its future financial performance. Specifically, Critical Path's Chief Executive Officer DOUGLAS T. HICKEY predicted that Critical Path would earn revenues of \$54 to \$56 million during the fourth quarter of 2000, and that Critical Path would become profitable for the first time ever during that quarter.
- 13. On or about November 2, 2000, Critical Path reaffirmed these predictions of fourth-quarter revenues and profitability. In a Company press release, CEO HICKEY was quoted as follows: "The fourth quarter of 2000 is a pivotal one for Critical Path, one in which we join an elite group of profitable new economy companies." The press release predicted fourth-quarter revenues of \$54 to \$56 million, and fourth-quarter earnings of \$0.01 per share.
- 14. As the fourth quarter drew to a close, the Company was far short of its publicly-announced goals for revenues and profitability.
- 15. On or about December 28, 2000, the defendant was approached by his supervisors at Critical Path and instructed to "call in favors" and "obtain back pocket

deals" for the fourth quarter. The defendant directed a salesperson reporting to him to execute a bogus software-licensing agreement for \$2 million with a company known as Bestseats. Bestseats did not need and could not pay for \$2 million of Critical Path software. Bestseats was secretly assured that it would never have to pay for the software that it was purporting to buy from Critical Path. The defendant knew that executing a software-licensing agreement with Bestseats would allow Critical Path to report fourth-quarter revenues that had not, in fact, been earned.

- 16. The defendant was also aware that, in addition to reporting false revenues, Critical Path was also fraudulently underreporting its quarterly expenses in an attempt to meet its publicly-stated goal of profitability.
- 17. By January 11, 2001, the defendant knew that, despite the fraudulent inflation of revenues and underreporting of expenses, Critical Path could not meet its publicly-stated financial goals. He believed that the price of Critical Path stock would fall if it was disclosed that the Company had failed to meet its goals and had engaged in fraud.

V. THE DEFENDANT'S INSIDER TRADING

- 18. On or about January 11, 2001, the defendant sold 1300 shares of Critical Path stock, at an average sales price of approximately \$24.50 per share, obtaining gross proceeds of \$31,881.25.
- 19. The defendant made this sale on the basis of the material nonpublic information that Critical Path could not meet its predicted financial results and had engaged in fraud.